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January 16, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

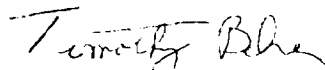
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to thank the Justice Department for agreeing to settle the Microsoft Anti Trust case. This case has dragged on for years and it's great that there is an end in sight. However, I hope that the government will be able to fend off the advances from Microsoft's competitors and allow the proposed settlement to be finalized. This settlement is more than reasonable, especially given Microsoft's contribution to consumers and small businesses. Their company is conceding a lot more than called for so that they can concentrate on their business again.

I am a private researcher and use Microsoft products daily for my research and personal use. Consumers would suffer greatly if it weren't for the Microsoft products that keep people connected to their PCs. There is a reason that most people use Microsoft over their competitors; in most cases their products have proved far superior to others'. However, this settlement will allow more competition in the computer industry, as Microsoft has agreed to share more of their coding information and interface design. They have also made it easier for PC users to use non-Microsoft products on Windows by allowing computer makers to pre-install their competitors' software on Windows.

Please do not allow further scrutiny of this settlement. It is a good way to end the lawsuits and allow the computer industry and the economy to get back on its feet.

Sincerely,



Timothy Baker, Ph.D.